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STPDTS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/26/2016

TAGS: PHUM PREL CU JA

SUBJECT: JAPAN OPPOSES CUBAN POSITION AT UN HUMAN RIGHTS

COUNCIL

REF: STATE 160278

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor W. Michael Meserve. Reason : 1.4 (b)(d).

(C) In response to reftel demarche, MOFA Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division Principal Deputy Director Yoriko Suzuki told Embasy Tokyo Political Section Deputy September 26 that Japan "totally opposes" Cuba's attempt to eliminate the UN Human Rights Council's mandate on Cuba and its efforts to bar NGOs from participating in discussions of country-specific resolutions. Japan particularly supports the "transparency" that NGO participation provides to the latter deliberations, she stated.

SCHIEFFER